

PATENT

RO996-054L (IBM/02B)  
Confirmation No. 9272

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence for Application No. 09/431,833 is being electronically transmitted to Technology Center 3621, via EFS-WEB, on October 9, 2007.

/Scott A. Stinebruner/  
Scott A. Stinebruner, Reg. No. 38,323

October 9, 2007  
Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Joseph Phillip Bigus et al. Art Unit: 3621  
Application N 09/431,833 Examiner: Pierre E. Elisca  
Filed: November 2, 1999  
For: INTELLIGENT AGENT WITH NEGOTIATION CAPABILITY AND  
METHOD OF NEGOTIATION THEREWITH

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**COMMUNICATION**

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed within the two-month period for response for a Reply Brief, and is responsive to the Examiner's Answer dated August 10, 2007. It is Applicant's understanding from speaking with SPE Andrew Fischer on October 9, 2007, that the previous Answer has been withdrawn due to the Answer's reliance on an incorrect reference (Hoffman instead of Heckerman), and that a new Examiner's Answer will be forthcoming. It is also Applicant's understanding that the application has been returned to the Tech Center to consider references submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, it is Applicant's understanding that no Reply Brief is currently due, and that the period for filing a Reply Brief will be restarted upon mailing of a new Examiner's Answer.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding the foregoing, or which might otherwise further this case onto allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at

(513) 241-2324. Moreover, if any other charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

October 9, 2007  
Date

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